

REMARKS

Please reconsider the present application in view of the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering the present application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1, 3, and 4 are pending in the present application. Claim 1 is independent. The remaining claims depend directly from claim 1.

Rejection(s) Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3, and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0025823 ("Hara"). For the reasons set forth below, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

As explained in the previous Responses, one or more embodiments of the claimed invention are directed to a vehicular remote control system comprising a mobile unit and a vehicle unit. In an exemplary embodiment, the mobile unit measures reception intensities of each transmission antenna in the vehicle, and then transmits the reception intensity information of *all the transmission antennas in one signal* with an ID portion, enabling the vehicle unit to locate the mobile unit based on the reception intensity information. Advantageously, measuring all the reception intensities before sending the results in one signal (*i.e.*, in contrast to receiving and then transmitting reception intensity information corresponding to each antenna separately) shortens the period of transmitting the signal and the period of decoding the signal at the vehicle unit, and saves energy as a result (*see e.g.*, Published Specification, paragraph [0027]).

Accordingly, independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, “wherein said mobile unit sequentially receives signals transmitted from at least a first and a last transmission antenna from the plurality of transmission antennas to measure the reception intensities of the sequentially received signals, and then, *after the mobile unit completes the reception intensity measurement of the last transmission antenna, transmits* an ID portion for storing the intrinsic identification information of the mobile unit and all reception intensity information of the sequentially received signals as one response signal to said vehicle unit.” The aforementioned limitation explicitly requires that the mobile unit transmit a response signal that includes all the reception intensity information after the mobile unit completes the measurement of the last transmission antenna.

Hara fails to show or suggest at least the above limitation.

The Examiner alleges that “[s]ince the portable-device finding answer signal contains reception intensities of the antennas, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to readily recognize that the signals sent from the portable device, that contains the reception intensity data, are all sent back as one signal, the portable-device finding answer signal, which includes the reception intensities and the antenna identification codes of the antennas” (*see* Office Action dated April 14, at pages 4 and 7.) Applicant respectfully disagrees.

In fact, Hara teaches that *every time* the portable device 10 receives the portable finding signal from antennas 24 and 25, the portable device 10 sends reception intensity data of each portable finding signal and the portable finding answer signal containing the antenna identifying code and the condition codes (*see* Hara, paragraph [0077]). Thus, a skilled artisan would readily recognize that the portable-device finding answer signal of Hara does not contain *all* reception

intensities of the antennas, and the portable device 10 does not send *all* reception intensity information *as one signal* to the stationary device 20.

Therefore, Hara fails to show or suggest at least “wherein said mobile unit sequentially receives signals transmitted from at least a first and a last transmission antenna from the plurality of transmission antennas to measure the reception intensities of the sequentially received signals, and then, *after the mobile unit completes the reception intensity measurement of the last transmission antenna, transmits an ID portion for storing the intrinsic identification information of the mobile unit and all reception intensity information of the sequentially received signals as one response signal to said vehicle unit,*” as required by independent claim 1.

Further, Applicant respectfully asserts that one skilled in the art would not arrive at the claimed invention without benefit of Applicant’s own disclosure. Because one skilled in the art would readily recognize that the shorter the response time of the portable device 10 of Hara is, the less energy of a battery of the portable device 10 is consumed. Accordingly, one skilled in the art would not be motivated to modify the portable device 10 of Hara such that the response time is *longer*, which would be result in an attempt to change the device of Hara to meet the claimed invention.

Recently, the Supreme Court issued its opinion on *KSR v. Teleflex*. *KSR Int’l Co. v. Teleflex Inc.*, 127 S.Ct. 1727 (2007). Although finding the teaching-suggestion-motivation test too narrow to be applied in a determination test for obviousness, the court underscored the importance of viewing the obviousness through the eyes of one skilled in the art. Thus, even in view of *KSR Int’l Co. v. Teleflex, Inc.*, “[a]n obviousness determination is not the result of a rigid formula disassociated from the consideration of the facts of a case. Indeed, the common sense of

those skilled in the art demonstrates why some combinations would have been obvious where others would not" (*see, KSR Int'l Co. v. Teleflex, Inc.*, 127 S.Ct. 1727, 167 L.Ed.2d 705 (April 30, 2007)). In this case, common sense dictates that modifying Hara to achieve the claimed invention would not have been obvious.

In view of above, Hara fails to show or suggest the invention as recited in independent claim 1. Thus, independent claim 1 is patentable over Hara. Claim 3 and 4, directly dependent from 1, are allowable for at least same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591, Reference 15115/106001.

Dated: July 11, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

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